



NEWSLETTER OF THE LONDON CHAPTER,
ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 2574, Station B, London, ON. N6A 4G9



December, 1992

92-8

Archaic to Early Late Woodland Prehistory of the Delaware Area

Jim Wilson
McMaster University

Well it took us to half way through our speaker night season, but we finally have on tap a speaker who will talk to us about archaeology in our own backyard. Jim has been exploring the Middle Woodland occupations in the area of the Thames between Komoka and Delaware. Not surprisingly, Jim has managed to trip over sites from just about every cultural period, and the spectacular range of his findings is quite impressive. Speaker Night this month is Thursday, January 14th, starting at 8 PM. **DON'T FORGET STARTING WITH THIS MONTH'S SPEAKER NIGHT, OUR MEETINGS ARE TO BE HELD AT GROSVENOR LODGE.** The lodge is located at 1017 Western Road, just west of the University. Western Road is what Wharencliffe Road turns into north of Oxford Road. Western Road also runs into Richmond Street just north of the Thames River and south of Masonville Mall. See you at our new digs!!

Next Month: In February we combine Speaker Night with Heritage Week (see inside). So Speaker Night will occur one week later than usual: Thursday, February 18th, Ron Williamson will talk on the Snake Hill site, a War of 1812 Battle site and military hospital in Fort Erie. Meeting time is 7:30 PM at Grosvenor Lodge.

*** * 1993 LONDON CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE NOW DUE * ***

Chapter Executive

ANNUAL RATES		<i>President</i>		<i>Secretary</i>
		Pat Weatherhead (438-4817)		Lorelyn Giese (679-5468)
		302-261 Platts Lane, London		66 Woodward Ave., London
		<i>Vice-President</i>		<i>Treasurer</i>
		Chris Ellis (657-6705)		Harri Mattila (672-6523)
Individual.....	\$15.00	1106-695 Proudfoot Lane, London		26 McMahan, London
Family.....	\$18.00			
Institutional.....	\$21.00	<i>Directors</i>		
Subscriber.....	\$17.00	Tom Arnold (667-0933)		Teresa Smith (657-0609)
		2-57 Craig St., London		30 Montclair Ave., London

EXECUTIVE REPORT

At the successful Chapter Christmas Party held last December 5th, the 1993 Chapter Executive was acclaimed: President - Pat Weatherhead; Vice-President - Chris Ellis; Treasurer -Harri Mattila; Secretary - Lorelyn Giese; Directors - Teresa Smith, Bev Morrison and Karen Mattila. Appointed members Peter Timmins (LACAC representative) and newsletter editor (Neal Ferris) continue on for 1993. Thanks to all who served last year and best of luck in '93.

The London Chapter will be serving as the organizer of the 1993 OAS symposium. This year, to change things a bit, the conference will be held on October 29th-31st, at the Sheraton Inn in Niagara Falls (just 2 blocks from the Falls!). This promises to be a fun and memorable symposium, but one that will require some hard work. So anyone willing to help out on the organizing committee, or willing to help during the conference should contact the Conference Committee Chair Neal Ferris, at 433-8401 (days), or 432-2165 nights.

FIRST NOTICE - 1993 LONDON CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE NOW DUE!!!!!!

SOCIAL REPORT

Heritage Week is fast approaching, and Pat has been working with the folks up at the Lodge to come up with a full slate of activities. Here's a listing of some of the events already planned:

Saturday, Feb. 13 - Heritage Fair, London Central Library, 12:00-4:30 PM.

Sunday, Feb. 14 - Open House, Grosvenor Lodge (GL), 1:00-4:00 PM.

Tuesday, Feb. 16 - Lecture (GL), 7:30 PM. Mike Baker (LRAHM):

"The Importance of Place in 19th C. London"

Wednesday, Feb. 17 - Lecture, London Art Gallery, 12:10 PM. Lynne DiStefano (LRAHM):

"George Moorehead Furniture Co.: High Victorian Design in London"

Thursday, Feb. 18 - Lecture (GL), 7:30 PM. Ron Williamson (ASI):

"Snake Hill - A War of 1812 Battle Site and Surgery"

Friday, Feb. 19 - Lecture, London Art Gallery, 7:30 PM. Dorothy Duncan (OHF):

"Consuming Passions: Ontario's Changing Food Traditions"

As well, most local museums will offer free admission for all or part of Heritage Week. For more information contact you nearest museum or Grosvenor Lodge.

EDITOR'S REPORT

It has always been the hope of those of us who produce **KEWA** that we could generate a dialogue (multilogue?) over an article published in **KEWA** - not only would it give us material to fill pages, but it would be exciting reading too! Well, Bill Fitzgerald may have started us off on the right track with last month's contribution. This month we feature a reply to Bill's article from Bob Pearce of the London Museum of Archaeology who offers a number of alternative interpretations to Bill's. And hey, let's not think the topic has been exhausted, there's a lot of room still for responses to both Bill's and Bob's contributions, so keep firing them in!! Also, to make all our readers feel a part of the **KEWA** family, we have Paddy Reid's latest "News from the North" contribution. Finally, we include Bud Parker's contribution to the Projectile Point type page! Whew, who says the Chapter doesn't give out Christmas presents!!

COMMENTS ON FITZGERALD'S (1992) ARTICLE REGARDING NEUTRAL IROQUOIAN TRANSFORMATION, AD 1450-1650

Robert J. Pearce

Introduction

In an article published in last month's **KEWA**, Bill Fitzgerald (1992) provided an overview of certain transformations he has interpreted for the Neutral Iroquoians from AD 1450 to 1650. While Fitzgerald has a good grasp of the historic Neutral in the Hamilton-Brantford area, based on his past research (e.g. Fitzgerald 1982; 1990a; 1990b) and that of others (e.g. Lennox 1981; 1984a; 1984b; M. Wright 1981), he has clearly failed to recognize the true nature of precontact Iroquoian life, especially as manifested at numerous Uren, Middleport and prehistoric Neutral sites west of the Grand River. He makes several sweeping generalizations about the precontact Iroquoians of the 15th and 16th century which will be questioned or refuted in this article.

Five specific statements or sets of statements made by Fitzgerald will be examined here, and data will be presented from a variety of precontact Iroquoian sites (predominantly in southwestern Ontario) to disprove or refute them (See Table 1 for a relative placement of some of the sites discussed). These statements relate to the following:

- Evidence of warfare;
- The frequency of deer bone in faunal assemblages;
- Ceramic pipe typology;
- The evolution of zoomorphic and anthropomorphic effigies on ceramic and stone pipes;
- Ritual and ceremonial artifacts relating to an "extractive curing procedure".

Evidence of Warfare

Fitzgerald states that "the archaeological evidence implemented to propose an escalation of precontact warfare and cannibalism must be carefully scrutinized" (1992:6). He questions the interpretation of scattered human bone, cremated remains and artifacts made of human bone found on some sites as indicators of warfare and cannibalism, believing these data "have probably been inappropriately attributed to hostile actions" (ibid), and offers some alternative interpretations. He further states that the impact of "intercultural feuding cannot be denied as a fact of Iroquoian life", but "should not be exaggerated on the present extent of archaeological evidence and Eurocentric interpretations attributed to the treatment of Iroquoian dead" (ibid:8). These refutations are used by Fitzgerald to argue that warfare was not a major concern of precontact Neutral Iroquoians, in contrast to the abundant evidence for warfare in the late 16th and 17th centuries.

Table 1:

Relative Chronological Placement of Some of the Sites Mentioned in Text

Site	Type	Cultural Period	Age (century)	References
Uren	village	Uren	13th-14th	Wintemberg 1928, J.Wright 1966, M.Wright 1986
Willcock	cabin	Uren	13th-14th	Poulton 1985
Middleport	village	Middleport	14th	Wintemberg 1948, J.Wright 1966
Edwards	village	Middleport	14th	Pearce 1982, 1984
Drumholm	village	Middleport	14th	Pearce 1982, 1984
Pound	village	Middleport	14th	Boyle 1891a, 1898a, J.Wright 1966
Moyer	village	prehistoric Neutral	15th	Wagner et al 1973
Norton	village	prehistoric Neutral	15th	ASI 1992
Lawson	village	prehistoric Neutral	15th	Wintemberg 1939, Pearce 1980, 1984
Southwold	village	prehistoric Neutral	15th	Wintemberg 1945, Jury 1946, Smith 1977
Clearville	village	prehistoric Neutral	15th-16th	Jury 1941, Pearce et al 1980

Table 1 Notes:

- Edwards site dates to early 14th century by ceramic seriation, but has two late 13th century radiocarbon dates;
- On the basis of ceramic seriation, Southwold is later than Lawson (Smith 1983a), and Clearville is later than both Lawson and Southwold (Pearce et al 1980).

There are a wide variety of indicators which, either alone or in combination, demonstrate that warfare was a major concern of precontact Neutral Iroquoians. These have been reviewed elsewhere (Pearce 1984) and will be summarized here. First, the presence of earthworks, often with ditches, have frequently been interpreted as a defensive measure. There is no reason to believe the occupants of the Harrietsville site in North Dorchester Township, Middlesex County (Boyle 1896; Keron 1983; 1986), the Southwold site in Southwold Township, Elgin County (Boyle 1891a:11; 1895:21; 1896:40; Wintemberg 1935; Jury 1946; Smith 1977), or the Lawson site in London (Wintemberg 1939; Pearce 1980), all of which had earthworks, were not concerned with defence.

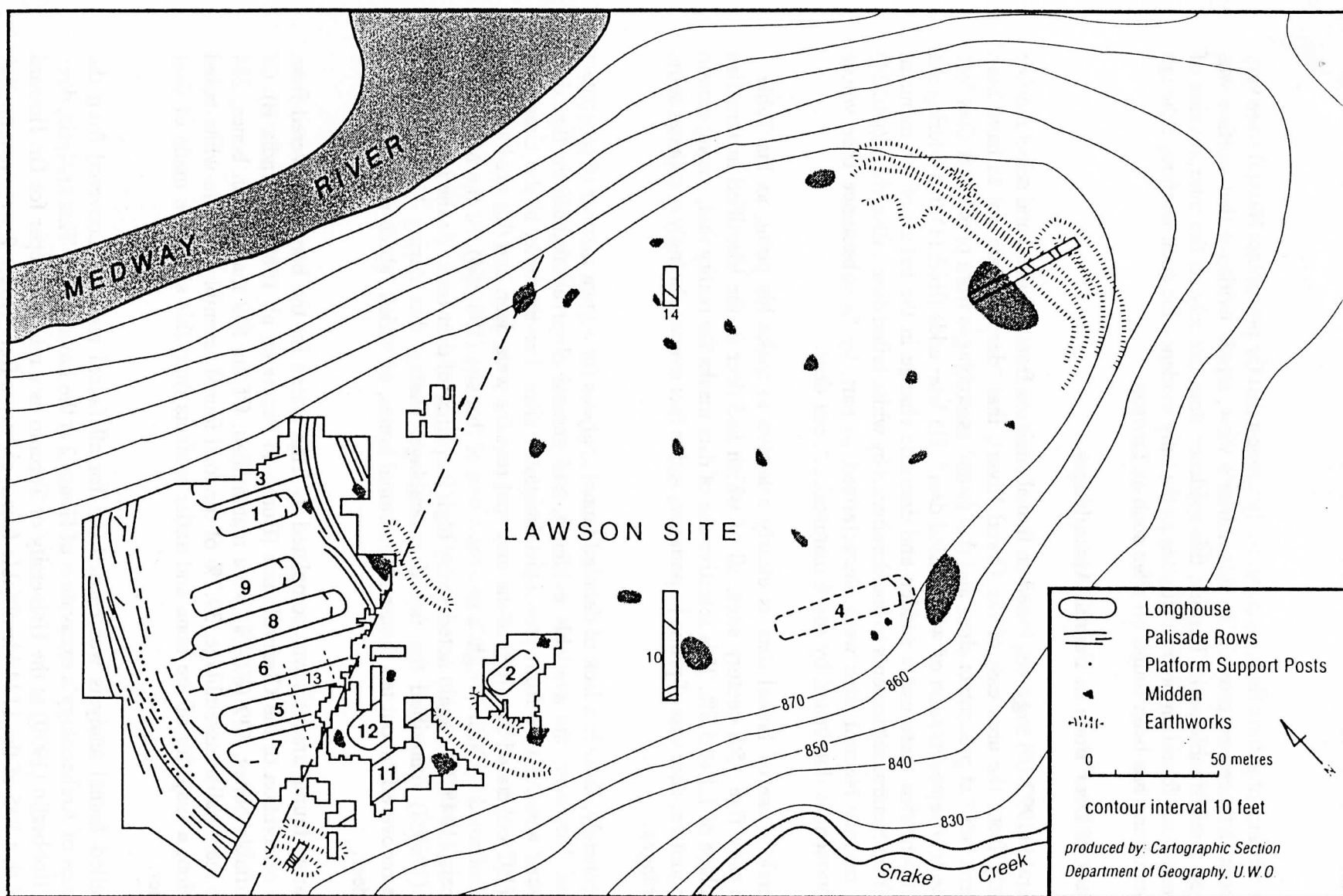
The earliest known earthworked site which can be reliably dated (to the Middleport period by ceramic seriation) is the Pound site in Malahide Township, Elgin County. Although no evidence of the earthwork remains above-ground today, its presence was observed by David Boyle (1891b:11; 1898a:44; also see Fox 1976:172). Boyle also noted (1895:21; 1896:40) the now well-known Southwold Earthworks in Elgin County. But in those same articles, Boyle (1895:21; 1896:40) stated there were several other earthworked sites in Elgin County which had been or were being disturbed by ploughing. In an earlier article he said "the people who at one time held the ground now included in the county of Elgin, have many evidences of their fondness for the throwing up of embankments, of which the most remarkable is that in the township of Southwold ... But others are reported in various parts of the county" (Boyle 1892b:11).

An article describing another Elgin County earthwork (to my knowledge, previously not referenced by Ontario archaeologists) appeared in the *St. Thomas Journal*, January 6, 1912. A sketch map of the enclosure is provided with that article. The description states the earthwork enclosed an area of three acres on "a high, level plateau, surrounded on three sides by a marshy ravine", with the earthwork "at all points about eight feet across the top, having an outer trench or ditch three feet deep". "Ash beds" were excavated in the site. Another poorly known earthworked village, the Waubuno site, was located at the southeast corner of the intersection of River Road and Highway 74, just east of London. It was destroyed by a gravel pit operation. The site is marked on the map of North Dorchester Twp. in the *Historical Atlas of Middlesex County* (H.R. Page & Co. 1878), and is shown on an early surveyor's map for the planned community of Waubuno (McClary 1855). The prehistoric Neutral Clearville site in Orford Township, Kent County was also reported to have been earthworked (Boyle 1889:16-17; Jurey 1941:2).

Several other features of precontact Iroquoian sites in southwestern Ontario also have been interpreted as being primarily defensive in nature (Pearce 1984; Pearce and Smith 1980). These include (See Figure 1, which illustrates a number of these features):

- a) The location of the Lawson site on a defensible plateau bordered on three sides by steep slopes;
- b) The location of the Southwold site straddling a watercourse, ensuring a supply of water if under siege;
- c) A complex entrance maze at the northwest end of the Lawson site (the only side which opens onto flat land), with staggered or off-set gaps through six rows of palisade;
- d) A "lookout" platform at the Lawson site, stockpiled with grapefruit-sized rocks to, as noted by Sagard for the Huron, "hurl down upon the enemy" (Wrong 1939: 91-93);
- e) The arrangement of longhouses within several sites (i.e. Nodwell, Lawson, Southwold) to create defensible long, narrow corridors; and,
- f) The placement of cordons within villages (between houses or between houses and palisades).

Figure 1: Lawson Site Plan.



These settlement pattern features collectively suggest that the precontact Neutral were very concerned about defence and provide, in this author's view, ample evidence that warfare was taking place on a measurable scale. Further, this evidence does not rely on the interpretation of scattered human bone found on precontact sites as the only evidence for such warfare, although certainly human bone has been found on sites such as Lawson.

The Frequency of Deer Bone in Faunal Assemblages

Fitzgerald (1992:10) suggests, based on faunal analyses from a limited and select number of sites (mostly from the area east of the Grand River), that "deer appears not to have been exploited extensively" at precontact sites, and that faunal assemblages from precontact sites "are notable for the low representation of white-tailed deer". He later adds (ibid:11) that "during the 16th and 17th centuries there was a sudden and dramatic change in the nature of the mammal assemblages from Neutral settlements to one dominated by white-tailed deer". Elsewhere (ibid:14) he says 15th century Neutral sites were characterized, in part, by "a subsistence base whose mammal component is dominated by small mammals...", not deer.

Fitzgerald's use of faunal data is clearly selective to make his point, as his Table 1 (1992:7) lists only five 15th century sites, all of which had deer in the identified mammalian faunal assemblage of 1.1 to 5.6%. This selective use of data masks the reality that, among certain precontact Iroquoians, deer was of prime importance, and in fact overwhelmingly dominates some faunal assemblages.

Unfortunately, there is a lack of detailed faunal analyses for a great number of precontact Iroquoian sites. However, the available evidence, and general observations, indicate that deer dominates faunal assemblages from precontact Iroquoian sites. For example, at the Uren site, Wintemberg (1928:6) stated that 70% of the mammal remains were deer, and this predominance of deer was confirmed by Milt Wright's re-excavation of that site (1986:54). At the Middleport site, Wintemberg (1948:3, 6) again noted a very high frequency of deer bone. At the Lawson site, Wintemberg (1939:8) quantified the faunal assemblage, stating that during his 1921-1923 excavation he recovered "about ten thousand" mammal bones, of which "about eight thousand" (80%) were deer.

A detailed faunal analysis was completed by Tina Burns for the bones recovered from Jury's (1941) excavation of the Clearville site (Burns, in Pearce et. al. 1980: Appendix B). Of the 715 identifiable bones, 639 (89.4%) were mammalian. Of the 639 mammalian bones, 284 (44.4% of the mammalian assemblage, 39.7% of the total faunal assemblage) were white-tailed deer. In addition, a majority of the bone and antler artifacts from this site were made of deer bone and antler.

A detailed faunal analysis was carried out for all faunal remains recovered from the London Museum of Archaeology's excavation of House 2 at the Lawson site. This analysis, done by Christine Hobberlin (1990) at the University of Toronto as a research paper for Dr. Howard Savage, found that 995 of the 1144 identifiable faunal elements from House 2 were mammalian

(86.97%), and that of those 995 mammal bones, 200 (20.1%) were deer. A further 324 bones were identified by her only as mammal species, and a further 419 bones were identified by her specifically as large mammal species; she believed (ibid:10) that a majority of those mammal and large mammal bones were deer.

The Norton prehistoric village in south London, partially excavated by Archaeological Services Inc. (ASI) prior to the City of London installation of a watermain, also had a high frequency of deer, quantified as 88% of the total faunal assemblage (ASI 1992:64).

A high frequency of deer bone within the faunal assemblages from the Windermere, Ronto and Smallman special-purpose cabin sites (which were associated with the Lawson village) has been noted but not quantified (Pearce 1983:13, 21, 28). Also, the relatively large faunal assemblage from the Uren period Willcock cabin site was dominated by deer (Poulton 1985:71).

These data therefore suggest that on certain precontact Iroquoian sites, dating from circa AD 1300 to the early 1500's, the percentage of deer in the mammalian faunal assemblage or total faunal assemblage was in the order of 44 to 80%, not less than 6% as Fitzgerald would lead us to believe. Thus, one must seriously question his statements about the importance of deer to the precontact Iroquoians and his belief that deer became more important on historic Neutral sites.

Ceramic Pipe Typology

Fitzgerald states that ceramic smoking pipe assemblages in the 15th century are dominated by "flared or elongated barrel-shaped bowls" (1992:10), and that in the 16th and 17th centuries pipe bowl shapes shifted "to short barrel, collared, and coronet styles" (ibid:11).

Elsewhere, other authors have made generalized statements about Uren and Middleport pipe assemblages. It was stated that pipes of the Uren substage exhibited both "earlier" and "later" traits, with the latter defined as "conical or barrel shaped bowls decorated with incising in the form of horizontals or complex zoned triangular motifs" (Dodd et. al. 1990:332). Middleport pipe assemblages were characterized as having over 50% conical bowls, followed by barrel and cylindrical shaped bowls, with "...lesser frequencies of other shapes, including vasiform. Roughly half of the pipes are usually plain. The most popular decoration consists of encircling lines of incised horizontals, alone or above a row of punctates. Also common, and characteristic of Middleport, are conical and barrel-shaped bowls with complex decorative motifs consisting of fine incised lines forming opposed triangles" (Dodd et al 1990:338).

Dodd et al also stated that trumpet pipes were introduced in the late Middleport period and increased in frequency during the Late Iroquoian stage, and that effigy pipes were present in minor frequencies on Uren and Middleport period sites and also increased in frequency during the Late Iroquoian stage (1990:338-339). In another article (Lennox and Fitzgerald 1990:419) it was stated that "...following the Middleport Substage, conical and barrel shaped pipe bowls continue into the 15th century. Most notable is the increase in the popularity of flaring pipe bowl forms, particularly exemplified by the trumpet and vasiform varieties. These are replaced in the

early 16th century with short, barrel-shaped (Iroquois ring, apple or acorn) bowls and collared and coronet varieties which persist into the 17th century."

No quantitative data are presented in any of those articles to support those statements.

As shown in Table 2 (compiled for a select number of 13th to early 16th century sites in southwestern Ontario), trumpet pipes were not present at the Uren period Willcock cabin site, but occur on all later sites, and vasiform pipes were present at Willcock, Moyer, Lawson and Clearville. The Iroquois ring type was present at Willcock and continued as a minor type through to the prehistoric Neutral period (although at Southwold and Clearville it accounted for 36.4% and 23.7%, respectively, of the pipe assemblages). The elongated ring variety was popular at Edwards and Lawson, and also present at Moyer and Southwold. Collared pipes are absent from Willcock, Edwards, Pound and Moyer but present on Lawson, Southwold and Clearville. The Clearville site also had a single coronet bowl and five bulbous ring bowls.

These data suggest that in southwestern Ontario collared, coronet and bulbous ring pipes did appear in the late 15th to early 16th centuries, but they did not "replace" the other types, nor was there a dominance of flared or elongated barrel-shaped bowls on 15th century and earlier sites. In regard to other statements that Middleport pipes were 50% conical and 50% plain (Dodd et. al. 1990), Table 2 indicates this was simply not the case at Middleport period sites in the London area such as Edwards and Pound.

Table 2:

Ceramic Pipe Typology for Selected Precontact Iroquoian Sites in Southwestern Ontario

	Willcock	Edwards	Pound	Moyer	Lawson	Southwold	Clearville
Sample Size	24	27	79	152	134	22	38
Pipe Forms (%):							
Plain	33.3	na	na	na	na	na	na
Punctate	na	3.7	na	na	na	na	5.3
Elongated Ring	na	33.3	na	9.2	22.4	4.5	na
Iroquois Ring	16.7	3.7	7.5	7.2	13.4	36.4	23.7
Barrel	na	na	11.4	na	na	na	na
Plain Trumpet	na	7.4	8.9	46.1	13.4	13.6	7.9
Effigy	na	3.7	na	na	7.5	na	5.3
Conical (mini.)	na	na	na	na	9.7	na	na

Collared Ring	na	na	na	na	10.5	9.1	15.8
Conical (plain)	25.0	25.9	25.3	4.6	8.2	9.1	10.5
Flaring Trumpet	na	na	na	na	2.2	na	na
Vasiform (dec.)	4.2	na	na	na	1.5	na	5.3
Collared (plain)	na	na	na	na	2.2	na	2.6
Collared (dec.)	na	na	na	na	na	na	2.6
Trumpet (dec.)	na	3.7	13.8	22.3	1.5	4.5	2.6
Conical (dec.)	12.5	18.5	31.7	7.2	2.2	na	2.6
Vasiform (plain)	na	na	na	2.0	na	na	na
Coronet	na	na	na	na	na	na	2.6
Bulbous Ring	na	na	na	na	na	na	13.2
Other	8.3	na	1.3	1.3	5.3	22.7	na

Table 2 Notes:

- For source references see Table 1;
- The Edwards and Clearville site pipes were analyzed by the author for this article;
- Decorated Trumpet includes Ring Trumpet, Conical Decorated includes Conical Ring;
- Clearville sample excludes eight miniature pipes (seven plain, one decorated with rings), and four stone pipes.

The Evolution of Zoomorphic and Anthropomorphic Effigies on Ceramic and Bone Pipes

Fitzgerald (1992:11), citing Mathews (1980), states that "during the 16th, and especially the 17th century, there was a rapid evolution of zoomorphic and anthropomorphic effigies on ceramic and ground lithic smoking pipes". He presents no evidence to support this statement.

There are numerous examples of both zoomorphic and anthropomorphic effigy pipes, as well as other forms of effigy art, on Early, Middle and early Late (i.e. prehistoric Neutral) Iroquoian sites throughout southwestern Ontario. Thus, Fitzgerald's assertion of a "rapid evolution" in the 16th and 17th century is questioned. Instead, there appears to have been a steady and gradual evolution of effigy art. While Noble (1979) has demonstrated that, indeed, certain forms of effigies occur only on historic Neutral sites, there are numerous precontact effigies which appear to foreshadow later styles.

Effigy art in Ontario can be traced to the Princess Point period: a fish effigy was found at the type site (Noble 1979:69). From the subsequent Glen Meyer period, a bird effigy is known from the King's Forest Park site (Fox 1967:21,23), and a human effigy was found at the Dewaele

site (Fox 1976:188). From the Middle Ontario Iroquoian Stage, the Uren site had a zoomorphic effigy (Wintemberg 1928:48,97), the Middleport site had both zoomorphic and anthropomorphic effigies (Wintemberg 1948:37,77), and the Nodwell site had an anthropomorphic effigy (maskette, not a pipe; Wright 1974:153). The prehistoric Neutral Lawson site has several zoomorphic and anthropomorphic effigies (see Wintemberg 1939). The prehistoric Neutral Clearville site (Jury 1941) in Kent County had a unique effigy combining both zoomorphic and anthropomorphic forms on a single stone pipe bowl: a bird head on the side facing away from the smoker, and an upside-down stylized human face (two eyes and a "Blow-Face" mouth on the side facing the smoker (the mouth is the hole for insertion of a removable stem) (Jury Collection, Clearville #10751, London Museum of Archaeology). That site also yielded a pipe shaped like a squash or gourd (Jury 1941:Plate 2, Fig. 3; Jury Collection, Clearville #828, London Museum of Archaeology) and a human skull gorget with an incised human stick figure and a "sunburst" (Jury 1941:Plate 9, Fig. 1; Jury Collection, Clearville #619, London Museum of Archaeology).

Ritual and Ceremonial Artifacts Relating to an "Extractive Curing Procedure"

Fitzgerald (1992:12) states that "it was amongst the Neutral of the 1630s and 1640s that an assemblage of implements belonging to an extractive curing procedure first appears on sites. Included among these items are long (generally greater than 100 mm) and frequently decorated animal bone 'sucking' tubes, ceramic human effigy pipes that depict the practitioners of the procedure ('Blow-Faces'), and increasingly greater frequencies of marine shell, copper, brass, and turtle shell rattles."

With the exception of copper and brass introduced historically, all of the items discussed above have been found on several precontact era sites in southwestern Ontario. Thus, Fitzgerald's assertion that these were used only by the historic Neutral after 1630 is demonstrably incorrect.

For example, animal bone tubes have been found on the Uren (M. Wright 1986:54), Middleport (Wintemberg 1948:27), and Lawson (Wintemberg 1939:36; Plate 13, Fig. 12) sites. One bone tube from Elgin County, and other bone tubes (unprovenanced other than southwestern Ontario), are documented in the field notes of Ernie Sackrider (manuscript on file, MCC, London). Also, the W. W. Jury collection at the London Museum of Archaeology has several bone tubes.

Several human effigy pipes with circular to oval open mouths foreshadow, and may have been early examples of, the "Blow-Face". Such effigies have been found on precontact sites, such as Middleport (Wintemberg 1948: Plate 17, Fig. 19) and Lawson (Wintemberg 1939:Plate 14, Figs. 6 and 8). A stone pipe with a "Blow-Face" mouth from the Clearville site was described above. In addition, a maskette from the Middleport period Nodwell site had a blowing or sucking mouth interpreted by Wright (1974:153) as being used "for curing purposes".

Fragments of turtle shell with holes or perforations in the same places as historically documented turtle shell rattles have been found on precontact sites. For example, Wintemberg (1939:37; Plate 13, Figs. 7 and 8) found one at Lawson. More recently, excavations at Lawson

yielded a complete carapace of a snapping turtle in a refuse-filled storage pit (Smith 1983b:4). This carapace had holes drilled through it, and the interior vertebral column attachments had been worn down, both of which strongly support its interpretation as a rattle. Not only that, also found in the same pit were a black bear radius and ulna with the ends snapped off and slight polishing on the shafts - could these have been the handle for the rattle?

Conclusions

The foregoing demonstrates that several of the "transformations" which Fitzgerald (1992) claims to have taken place in 16th and 17th century Neutral Iroquoian culture are not substantiated when one examines available data from earlier (10th to 15th century) precontact sites in southwestern Ontario.

Acknowledgments

I wish to thank Bill Finlayson for drawing my attention to the St. Thomas Journal newspaper article describing an earthworked village site in Elgin County (He located a copy of it among the A.F. Hunter files at the Royal Ontario Museum). Many of the ideas put forth herein were developed in the author's doctoral dissertation (Pearce 1984).

References

- Archaeological Services Inc. (ASI)
1992 Report on the Salvage Excavation of the Norton Site (AfHh-86). Report prepared by Archaeological Services Inc. (edited by David Robertson). Toronto.
- Boyle, David
1889 Village Site at Clearville, Orford Township. **Annual Archaeological Report of Ontario (AARO)1888-89**: 15-18.
1891a Southwold Earthwork. **AARO 1891**: 11.
1891b Malahide. **AARO 1891**: 11.
1895 Notes on Primitive Man: Earthworks. **AARO 1895**:20-21.
1896 Ontario Earthworks. **AARO 1894-95**:33-40.
1898a Earthwork in Malahide. **AARO 1897-98**: 44.
1898b Notes on Some Specimens: Stone Pipes. **AARO 1898**: 46-48.
- Dodd, Christine F., Dana R. Poulton, Paul A. Lennox, David G. Smith and Gary A. Warrick
1990 The Middle Ontario Iroquoian Stage. In: **The Archaeology of Southern Ontario to A.D. 1650**. (edited by C.J. Ellis & N. Ferris), pp. 321-359. Occasional Publication of the London Chapter, OAS Number 5. London.
- Fitzgerald, William R.
1982 **Lest the Beaver Run Loose: The Early 17th Century Christianson Site and Trends in Historic Neutral Archaeology**. National Museum of Man, Archaeological Survey of

- Canada, Mercury Series Paper 111. Ottawa.
- 1990a Chronology to Cultural Process: Lower Great Lakes Archaeology, 1500-1650. Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Department of Anthropology, McGill University. Montreal.
- 1990b Preliminary Observations on the Ivan Elliot (AiHa-16) Village and Raymond Reid (AiHa-4) Hamlet, Wellington County, Ontario. **KEWA** 90(6):2-16.
- 1992 Contact, Contraction, and the Little Ice Age: Neutral Iroquoian Transformations, AD 1450-1650. **KEWA** 92(7):3-24.
- Fox, William A.
- 1967 A Hillside Midden, King's Forest Park Site. **Ontario Archaeology** 10:18-28.
- 1976 The Central North Erie Shore. In: **The Late Prehistory of the Lake Erie Drainage Basin** (edited by D. Brose):162-192. Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Cleveland.
- H.R. Page & Co. (Publishers)
- 1878 **Historical Atlas of Middlesex County**. Toronto.
- Hobberlin, Christine
- 1990 Faunal Report on the Faunal Material Recovered from the Lawson Site, AgHh-1, in London, Ontario. Manuscript on File, Howard Savage Faunal Archaeo-Osteology Laboratory, University of Toronto; and London Museum of Archaeology.
- Jury, W. Wilfrid
- 1941 **Clearville Prehistoric Village Site, Orford Township, Kent County, Ontario**. Museum of Indian Archaeology, Bulletin 2. London.
- 1946 Southwold Prehistoric Earthworks. **The Canadian Historical Review** 27(4):391-393.
- Keron, Jim
- 1983 The Harrietsville Site (AfHf-10): 1981 Excavations. **KEWA** 83(3):3-13.
- 1986 The Iroquoian Occupation of Southeast Middlesex County, Ontario. Unpublished Honours B.A. Thesis, Department of Anthropology, University of Waterloo. Waterloo.
- Lennox, Paul
- 1981 **The Hamilton Site: A Late Historic Neutral Town**. National Museum of Man, Archaeological Survey of Canada, Mercury Series Paper 103:211-403. Ottawa.
- 1984a **The Hood Site: A Historic Neutral Town of 1640 A.D.** National Museum of Man, Archaeological Survey of Canada, Mercury Series Paper 121:1-183. Ottawa.
- 1984b **The Bogle I and Bogle II Sites: Historic Neutral Hamlets of the Northern Tier**. National Museum of Man, Archaeological Survey of Canada, Mercury Series Paper 121:184-289. Ottawa.
- Lennox, Paul A. and William R. Fitzgerald
- 1990 The Culture History and Archaeology of the Neutral Iroquoians. In: **The Archaeology of Southern Ontario to A.D. 1650**. (edited by C.J. Ellis & N. Ferris), pp. 405-456.

Mathews, Zena Pearlstone

- 1980 **Of Beast and Man: The Chronology of Effigy Pipes Among Ontario Iroquoians.** *Ethnohistory* 27(4):295-307.

McClary, W.

- 1855 Plan of the Town of Waubuno, Situated in the Township of Dorchester in the County of Middlesex. Surveyor's Plan on file, Regional Collections Room, D.B. Weldon Library, University of Western Ontario. London.

Noble, William C.

- 1979 Ontario Iroquois Effigy Pipes. *Canadian Journal of Archaeology* 3: 69-90.

Pearce, Robert J.

- 1980 Lawson Site (AgHh-1) Excavations, 1976-1979. Report on file, Ministry of Culture and Communications, Toronto; and London Museum of Archaeology.
- 1982 The Edwards (AfHi-23) and Drumholm (AfHi-22) Sites. Report on file, Ministry of Culture and Communications, Toronto.
- 1983 **The Windermere, Ronto and Smallman Sites: Salvage Excavations of Prehistoric Iroquoian Hamlets.** Museum of Indian Archaeology, Research Report 13. London.
- 1984 Mapping Middleport: A Case Study in Societal Archaeology. Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Department of Anthropology, McGill University. Montreal.

Pearce, R. J., M. S. Cooper, M. E. Cornies, S. E. Janusas & J. D. MacDonald

- 1980 An Assessment of the Culture History of Middlesex County and Vicinity. Report on File with the Ontario Heritage Foundation. Toronto.

Pearce, Robert J. and David G. Smith

- 1980 The Longhouse and Iroquoian Defensive Strategy. Paper presented at the 13th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Archaeological Association. Saskatoon.

Poulton, Dana R.

- 1985 Salvage Archaeology in London: The 1983-1984 C.O.E.D. Program and the Magrath, Willcock and Pond Mills Sites. Manuscript on file, London Museum of Archaeology. London.

Smith, David

- 1977 **The Archaeological Investigations at the Southwold Earthworks, 1935 and 1976.** Parks Canada, Manuscript Report Number 314. Ottawa.
- 1983a **An Analytical Approach to the Seriation of Iroquoian Pottery.** Museum of Indian Archaeology, Research Report 12. London.
- 1983b Lawson Site Pot. *Palisade Post* 8(3):4.

- Wagner, Norman E., L. E. Toombs and E. R. Riegert
- 1973 **The Moyer Site: A Prehistoric Village in Waterloo County.** Wilfrid Laurier University Publications. Waterloo.
- Wintemberg, William J.
- 1928 **The Uren Village Site, Oxford County, Ontario.** National Museum of Canada, Bulletin 51. Ottawa.
- 1935 **Preliminary Report on the Exploration of the Southwold Earthworks, Elgin County** National Museum of Man, Manuscript 195. Ottawa.
- 1939 **Lawson Prehistoric Village Site, Middlesex County, Ontario.** National Museum of Canada, Bulletin 94. Ottawa.
- 1948 **The Middleport Prehistoric Village Site.** National Museum of Canada, Bulletin 109. Ottawa.
- Wright, James V.
- 1966 **The Ontario Iroquois Tradition.** National Museum of Canada, Bulletin 210. Ottawa.
- 1974 **The Nodwell Site.** National Museum of Man, Archaeological Survey of Canada, Mercury Series Paper 22. Ottawa.
- Wright, Milton
- 1981 **The Walker Site.** National Museum of Man, Archaeological Survey of Canada, Mercury Series Paper 103:1-210. Ottawa.
- 1986 **The Uren Site AfHd-3: An Analysis and Reappraisal of the Uren Substage Type Site.** Ontario Archaeological Society, Monographs in Ontario Archaeology 2. Toronto.
- Wrong, G.M. (editor)
- 1939 **The Long Journey to the Country of the Hurons.** The Champlain Society. Toronto.

HERE BE DRAGONS: THE INDIAN TRADE GUN SIDE PLATES FROM THE BALLYNACREE SITE (DkKp-8), KENORA

C. S. "Paddy" Reid

Introduction

Ballynacree (DkKp-8) is a multi-component site located at the mouth of the Winnipeg River in Kenora, Northwestern Ontario (Figure 1). The site, which was suffering severe erosion caused by hydro dams on the Winnipeg River, was excavated over a four year period and yielded Archaic, Laurel, Blackduck, Selkirk, Sandy Lake, French Fur Trade, English Fur Trade, and Post-Confederation Historic components (see Reid and Rajnovich 1983; Reid 1985, 1992 and in press). One of the more interesting sub-assemblages from the Fur Trade strata was four "dragon" or "serpent" side plates from trade muskets.

The Ballynacree Side Plates

The side plates are shown in Figure 2 and consist of one complete specimen, two "head" segments, and one "mid-body" segment. In an earlier study of this artifact type on Ontario Fur Trade era sites the author traced its changes in morphology chronologically (Reid 1978), and the Ballynacree specimens fall generally into the "final" form (1978:12). Three (Figures 2a, b and d) are cast brass while the fourth (Figure 2c) is of stamped brass. The complete specimen has five notches behind the head which have been made with a file, and thus were presumably added after the plate had been removed from the original trade gun. Both serpent's head fragments are similarly notched (Figure 2b specimen with four notches and Figure 2d specimen with three notches). The three fragments all appear to have been deliberately broken, and indeed the thickest one - Figure 2b at 23 mm - shows evidence of violent destruction as the screw hole at the head end is bent up at a 56 degree angle and the point of breakage part way down the body is bent down at a 21 degree angle and is twisted.

Discussion

Side plates on muskets, be they flintlock or percussion, serve as a stable platform to anchor the three screws which secure the lock plate - the actual firing mechanism - to the opposite side of the stock as illustrated at Figure 3. The "serpent" (also called "dragon") variety is a feature on all Indian trade guns, and the reasons for and development of the serpent form have been discussed in considerable detail elsewhere (Hanson 1955; Hamilton 1968, 1980; Reid 1978). Basically North American aboriginal people simply would not accept firearms which did not bear this form of side plate.

The number of recovered serpent side plates from Ontario fur trade sites, consumer and trader, has increased considerably since the author compared them in 1978. In addition to these four new specimens from Ballynacree we now have examples from Ash Rapids (Reid 1978), Martin's Falls (Vyvyan 1980), Fort St. Joseph (Emerson et al 1977), Rat Rapids (Reid 1978), New Brunswick

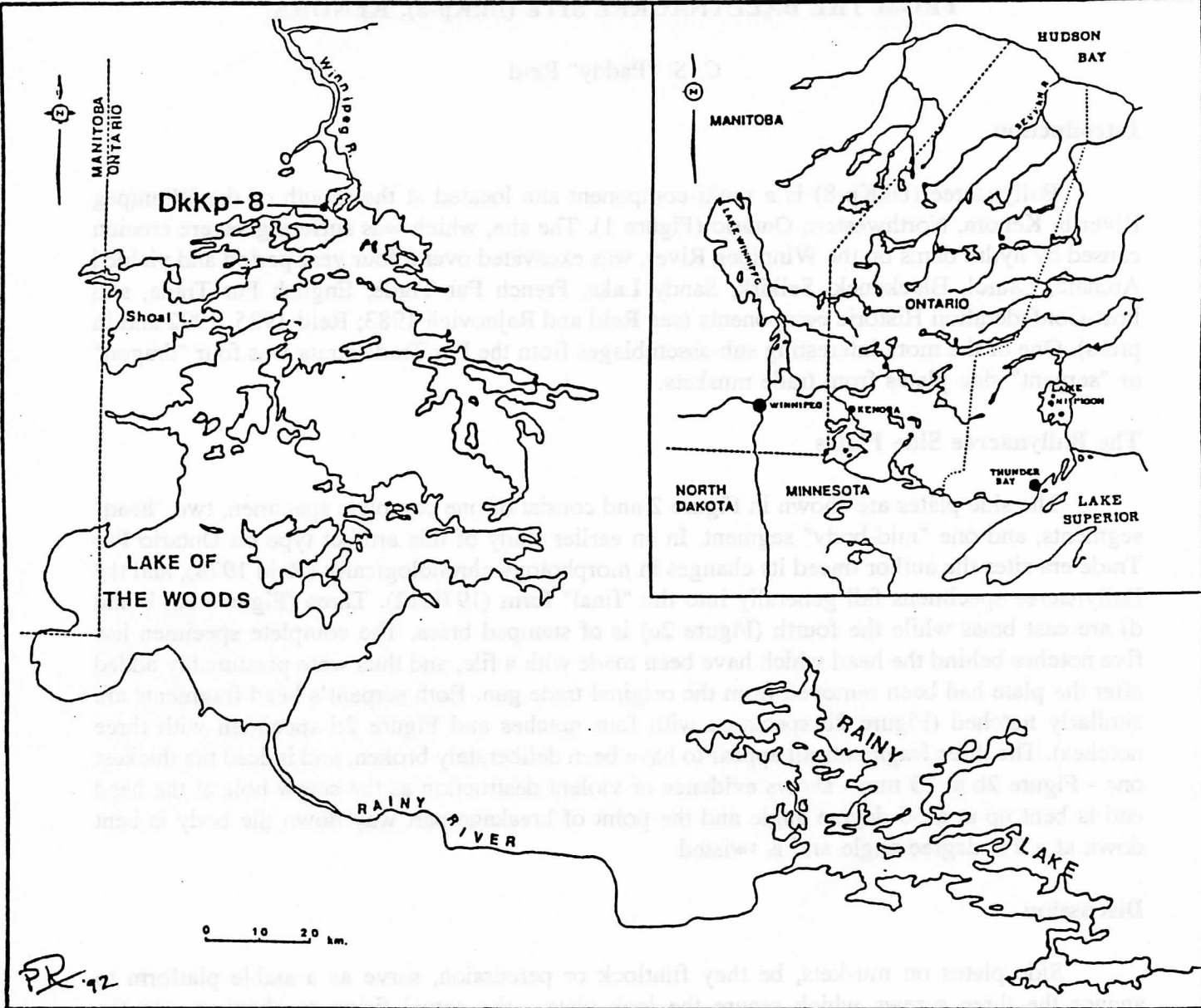
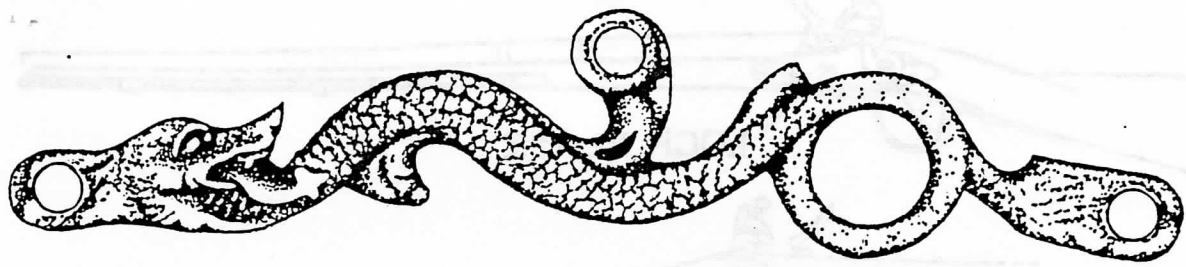


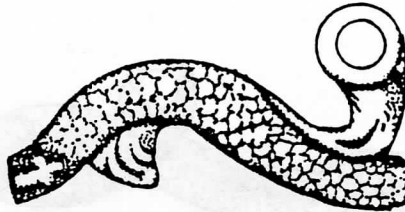
Figure 1: The Ballynacree Site (DkKp-8) on the Winnipeg River.



a



b



c



d

0 1 2 3 4 cm.

cf. 17

Figure 2: The "Dragon" or "Serpent" Side Plates From the Ballynacree Site.

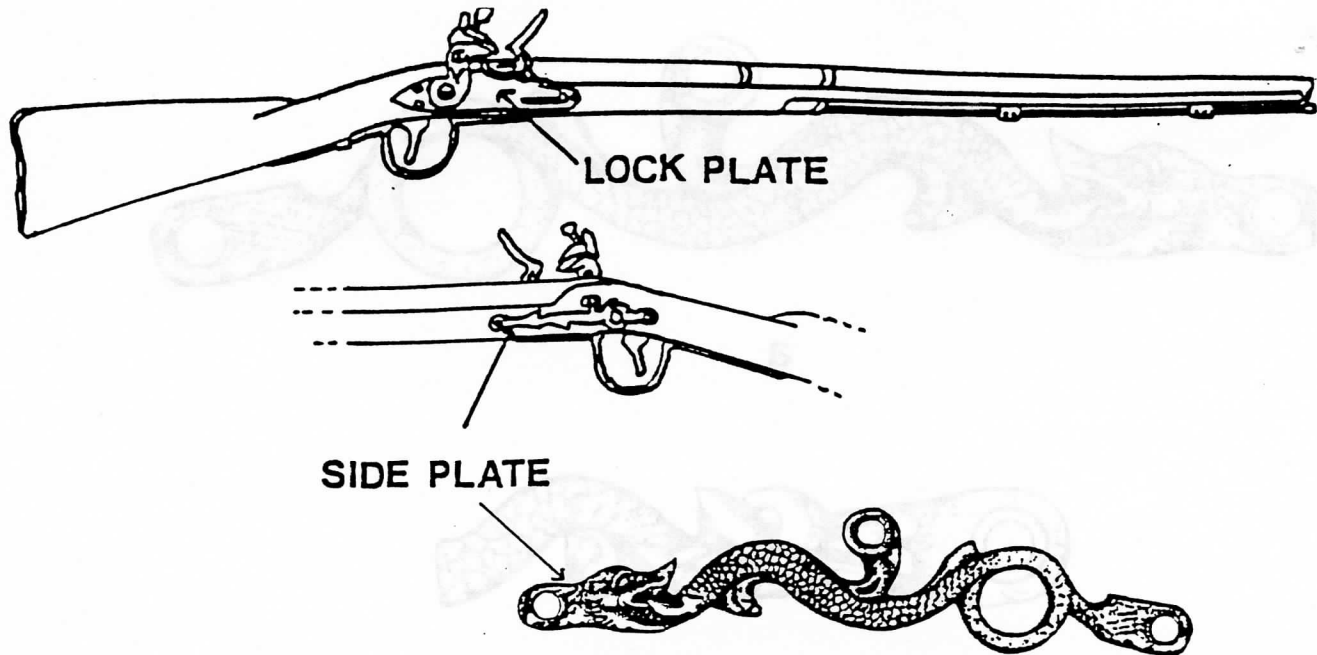


Figure 3: Morphology and Use of the (Serpent) Side Plate.

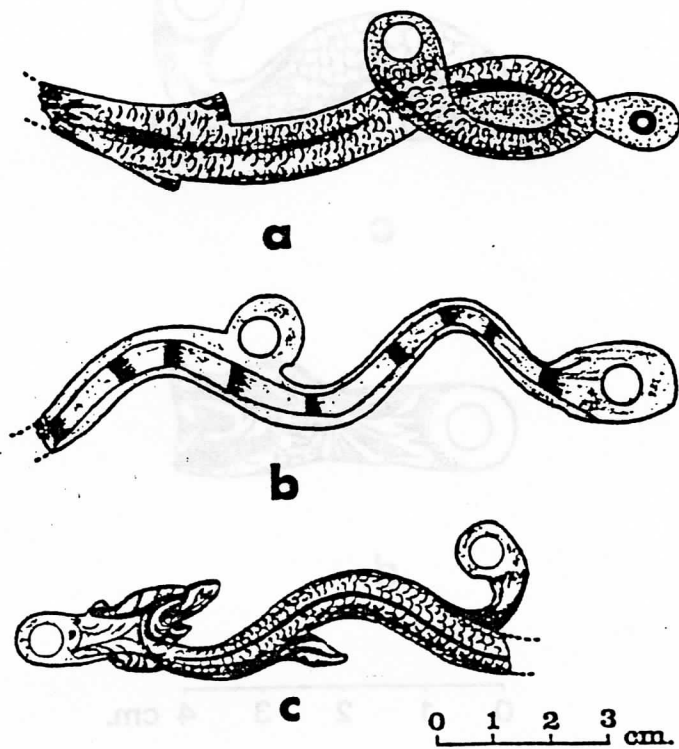


Figure 4: The Ash Rapids Site (DjKq-4) Side Plates.

House (Arthurs 1980), Longlac Post (Dawson 1969), EjJd-3 on the Albany River (Riddle 1981), and the Matthew Elliott House (Ferris 1985). The vast majority are the "final" form which is a distinct scaled serpent, initially cast and then stamped during the latter part of this type of firearms' existence, and always made of brass. Some earlier forms do occur in Ontario, for example at the Ash Rapids Site (DjKq-4) on Lake of the Woods (see Figure 4). In an intriguing paper published in this newsletter, William Fox raised some hypotheses about copper and brass serpents in aboriginal usage, including the serpent side plates from Ash Rapids (Fox 1992).

Fortuitously Bill Fox and the author got together to discuss serpent side plates as Reid was analyzing these from Ballynacree and Fox those from York Factory in Manitoba. As a result we are preparing a joint paper on serpent sideplates from a cognitive viewpoint for most of northern and mid-northern Canada and the U.S.A. In the meantime it is hypothesized that the side plates from Ballynacree have been treated ritually, through either deliberate notching of the back of the serpent's head or neck, or deliberate breakage, or both, and that as Fox hypothesized this constitutes "ritual killing" (Fox 1992). A re-examination of the Ash Rapids sideplates (Figure 4) revealed the same pattern - the "neck" area of side plate 4a possesses four deep scoring marks on the back, and the neck area of side plate 4c has three transverse scorings on the back of the neck area also.

Acknowledgements

Many thanks to Cindy Rusak for the excellent illustrations of the Ballynacree sideplates, and to Bill Fox for "scaly serpent talk".

References

- Arthurs, David W.
1980 Fur Trade Sites on the Missinaibi River; a Preliminary Report. In: **Northern Ontario Fur Trade Archaeology: Recent Research** (edited by C. S. "Paddy" Reid), pp. 37-50. Ministry of Culture and Recreation, Archaeological Research Report 12. Toronto.
- Dawson, Kenneth C. A.
1969 Archaeological Investigations at the Site of the Longlac Historic Trading Post, Thunder Bay District, Ontario. **Ontario Archaeology** 12: 3-61.
- Emerson, J. N., H. E. Devereux and M. J. Ashworth
1977 **A Study of Fort St. Joseph**. Parks Canada, National Historic Parks and Sites Branch, History and Archaeology Series Number 14. Ottawa.
- Ferris, Neal
1985 Analysis of the Matthew Elliott Collection. Report Submitted to the Ontario Heritage Foundation. Toronto.
- Fox, William A.

- 1992 The Serpent's Copper Scales. **KEWA** 92(3): 3-13.
- Hamilton, T. M.
- 1968 **Early Indian Trade Guns: 1625-1775**. Contributions of the Museum of the Great Plains 3. Lawton.
- 1980 **Colonial Frontier Guns**. The Fur Press. Chadron.
- Hanson, C. E. Jr.
- 1955 **The Northwest Gun**. Nebraska State Historical Society, Publications in Anthropology 2. Lincoln.
- Reid, C. S. "Paddy".
- 1978 The Dragon Side Plate: Its Origins, Variations and Chronologies on Fur Trade Sites. **Ontario Archaeology** 30:3 - 15.
- 1985 LaVerendrye's Cree Guide and the Ballynacree Site. Paper presented at the Midwest Archaeological Conference. East Lansing.
- 1992 The Sacredness of Carved Stone Pipes in the Ojibwa-Cree Area of the Northern Mid-Continent: A Spatial and Temporal Dilemma. Paper presented at the 1992 Canadian Archaeological Association Annual Meeting. London. In press, **The Michigan Archaeologist**.
- Reid, C, S. "Paddy" and Grace Rajnovich
- 1983 The Ballynacree Site in Northwestern Ontario: A House at the Laurel-Blackduck Crossroads. **Arch Notes** 83 (6):5 - 9.
- Riddle, David K.
- 1981 Archaeological Survey of the Albany River Year 2: Triangular Lake to Waski Lake. In: **Studies in West Patricia Archaeology Number 2: 1979-1980** (edited by C.S. "Paddy" Reid and W.A. Ross), pp. 207-280. Ministry of Culture and Recreation, Archaeological Research Report Number 16. Toronto.
- Vyvyan, Rosemary P.
- 1980 An Analysis of Artifacts from Martin's Falls Hudson's Bay Company Post, Ejlp-1. In: **Northern Ontario Fur Trade Archaeology: Recent Research** (edited by C. S. "Paddy" Reid), pp. 139-188. Ministry of Culture and Recreation, Archaeological Research Report 12. Toronto.



SIZE Using published data from Illinois (Munson 1971), and unpublished data from the Fitzgerald site (AFGw-82), Town of Haldimand, Ontario, typical specimens have the following measurements: length 40-71 mm; max. width 17-40 mm; max. thickness 5-14 mm; blade length 22-52 mm; stem length 10-22 mm; and, stem width 12-20 mm.

SHAPE A stemmed lanceolate, the Kramer point tends to have a straight to slightly convex base. The stems are long, usually over one third the length of the point. The stem sides are straight, contracting, or are occasionally excurvate in shape. The shoulders are prominent, often sloping from the stem in a wide arc, leaving a distinctive barb-like corner at the beginning of the blade. Blades are triangular or excurvate in shape, and are often heavily reworked and/or resharpened. Cross-sections are usually bi-convex, but occasionally plano-convex in shape.

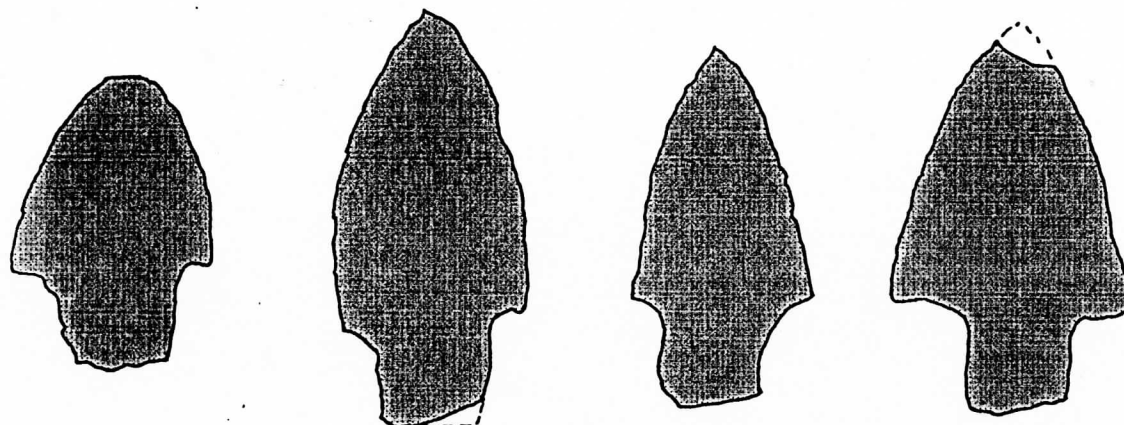
FLAKING Flaking is not well executed, often leaving primary surfaces on one or both sides. Percussion flaking is used to shape the point from a leaf-shaped preform. The stem is produced by percussion flaking before pressure flaking shapes the final blade edges, tip, and hafting elements. Grinding is frequently used on the stem. Often the base is left unrefined, or thicker than the blade. This finishing technique is like the classic Lamoka point base.

RAW MATERIAL In Southwestern Ontario these points have been made from Kettle Point, Onondaga, and Selkirk cherts. Exotic cherts tend to be from Michigan, such as Bayport and Norwood cherts.

DISTRIBUTION Kramer points are found primarily in the lower Great Lakes areas (Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, northern Ohio, southern Ontario [Adams 1989; DeRegnaucourt 1992; Justice 1987]). Kramer-like points are seen throughout eastern Ontario, western New York and Quebec (Granger 1978; Jackson 1980; Ritchie & Funk 1973).

AGE AND CULTURAL AFFILIATION Early to Middle Woodland periods: Kramer points are dated to 500 BC in Michigan at the Schultz site (Fitting 1972; Ozker 1982) and at other Early Woodland sites in Illinois and Indiana (Munson 1971). Kramer points probably were in use until circa AD 1 in the Midwest US and southwestern Ontario. In eastern Ontario and Quebec, Point Peninsula sites still have stemmed points in their assemblages that resemble Kramer points (Emerson 1955; Dailey and Wright 1955; Levesque et al 1964).

REMARKS It must be noted that at the recently studied Fitzgerald site, Kramer points represent only about one-third of the point collection. The remainder are stemmed points with ovate stems, or stemmed points with convex bases. These non-Kramer points are similar to Adena, Robbins or Cresap points, but also made from the same cherts as the Kramer points. It is suggested that Adena, Robbins, Cresap, and Kramer points are contemporary in southern Ontario, beginning circa 500 BC, until AD 1, or slightly later. Evidence is growing to indicate that these stemmed points of the late Early Woodland and early Middle Woodland periods may represent a technological or functional shift from small Early Woodland notched points (Meadowood) to larger lanceolates/knives of the latter Middle Woodland period. Kramer and other similar stemmed points from this time period should not be overlooked in comparison to other more obvious types such as "Meadowood" or "Saugeen", when analyzing assemblages.



Scale 1:1